



**Prior Lake/Savage Hockey Association
Player Expectations and Tryout Procedure
2008/2009**

Dear PLSHA Families-

The 2008/09 season is just around the corner, there will be a few changes from previous years regarding expectations, attendance policies, and tryout procedure. We look forward to a great season as our program takes another step forward and builds on last years success.

The PLSHA is moving swiftly in the right direction regarding its youth hockey development. Now is the time for our association to look, act, and expect the same behavior on and off the ice as all of the top programs in the metro area.

It should be the goal of every player at the youth level to one day play varsity hockey for the Prior Lake Lakers. There will be people who attend a private high school for academic reasons, but let's make sure there isn't a reason to leave because of our hockey program; it's time to raise expectations and build tradition. As an association we must turn the corner from "We want to be good" to "We are good".

Take pride in putting that jersey on. Understand that the harder you work on your own individual game, the better the results will be for your team. That is the ultimate goal!

Sincerely,

PLSHA Board and HDC

Travel Player Expectations

- The team is first; support your teammates.
- A consistent work ethic at all practices.
- An expectation of winning, not hoping you do.
- Positive attitude toward all team members and coaches.
- Respect for fellow competitors and officials.
- A willingness to learn and improve.
- Take pride in your team and association.
- The best players work hard to improve and have FUN doing it!

Attendance Policy

- Players will be required to attend ALL games and practices.
- Acceptable absences include religion, illness, and family emergencies. The need to finish school work is not acceptable; players must balance their schedules and learn how to become student-athletes. It will be required if they wish to play high school hockey and beyond.
- MEA and holidays do not double as vacations from hockey and will be considered unexcused; playing travel hockey requires 100% commitment.
- The following are the consequences of missing a practice or game; the same policy will be standard on ALL “A” and “B1” level teams, squirt through bantam.

*Players missing **practice** due to an unexcused absence will be required to sit one (1) period in the next game.*

*Players missing a **game** due to an unexcused absence will be required to sit the entire next game.*

“B2” and “C” players are encouraged to adhere to the same levels of commitment as “A” players, but coaches may implement less stringent requirements at these levels.

- There will be no exceptions to this policy on any “A” or “B1” level team, squirt through bantam.

Tryout Procedure and Evaluation

- Tryouts will once again be closed to parents. Parents are welcome to view tryouts in the lobby, but are not allowed to enter the arena. If your child requires extra assistance with anything, please arrange to have them meet you in the lobby.
- There will be NO skills and drills at the peewee and bantam levels. Squirts will have one (1) day of skills and drills followed by scrimmage sessions.

- Players will be evaluated on work ethic, attitude, skill, and overall ability to play the game; not necessarily in that order.
- Returning “A” level players DO NOT have a guaranteed spot. Please come to tryouts prepared to perform as this will determine team placement!
- PLSHA non-parent coaches will serve as evaluators for their respective levels; they may have other non-parents helping them during the evaluation process.
- There will be a board member, without a child at the respective age level, assigned to help monitor the process.